

Changes Address Nuisance Problems and Property Damage

The river otter restoration program has resulted in a rapidly growing population, currently estimated to be between 11,000 and 18,000 otters. Because of damage to fish stocks in some portions of the Ozarks, the trapping season for otters in Zone E extends to Feb. 20 (before females give birth), and the bag limit is liberal. Otter bag limits in other zones are more restrictive because otter densities are lower and damage to fish stocks is less apparent. *Note: In Zone E, the muskrat trapping season also extends to Feb. 20.*

Valid Permits

To attempt to take or take by trap only and to possess and transport otters, you must have one of the following:

Resident Trapping Permit \$10
Nonresident Furbearer
Hunting and Trapping Permit \$80

Trap Restrictions

- Traps may not be placed or set before Nov. 20 and must be removed by midnight of the last day of trapping season.
- Wildlife shall be removed or released from all traps daily, except that Conibear-type or killing traps set under water shall be attended and wildlife removed at least every 48 hours.
- In zones A, B, C and D, Conibear-type traps with a jaw spread of less than 8 inches, and leghold traps smaller than No. 3 are prohibited in water sets after Jan. 20.
- In Zone E, Conibear-type traps with a jaw spread less than 8 inches and leghold traps smaller than No. 3 are prohibited for trapping beaver after Feb. 20.

Tagging and Checking

Before they can be sold, transferred, tanned or mounted, otters or their pelts must be delivered by the taker to an agent of the Missouri Department of Conservation for registration or tagging:

- in the zone where the otter was harvested
- not later than Feb. 4 in zones A, B, C and D
- not later than March 4 in Zone E.

Possession and Sale

- Pelts of furbearers may be possessed, transported and sold only by the taker from Nov. 20 through Feb. 4, except that pelts of coyotes and pelts of muskrats taken in Otter Zone E may be possessed, transported, consigned for processing and sold from Nov. 20 through March 1.
- Pelts of beaver may be possessed, transported, consigned for processing and sold by the taker from Nov. 20 through April 10.
- Tagged otters and bobcats or their pelts may be possessed and sold throughout the year.
- It is illegal to purchase or sell untagged otters and bobcats or their pelts. After tanning, pelts may be possessed, bought or sold without permit. Skinned carcasses of legally taken furbearers may be sold by the taker throughout the year. *Note: Certain Department of Health rules also govern how furbearer carcasses might be used.*

Missouri Department of Conservation

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10/2003

Otter Trapping Regulations




effective November 2003



New zone boundaries are in effect for trapping river otters. New zones will enable us to better manage this important resource. See map inside. For more information on trapping otters and other furbearers, see the Wildlife Code of Missouri.

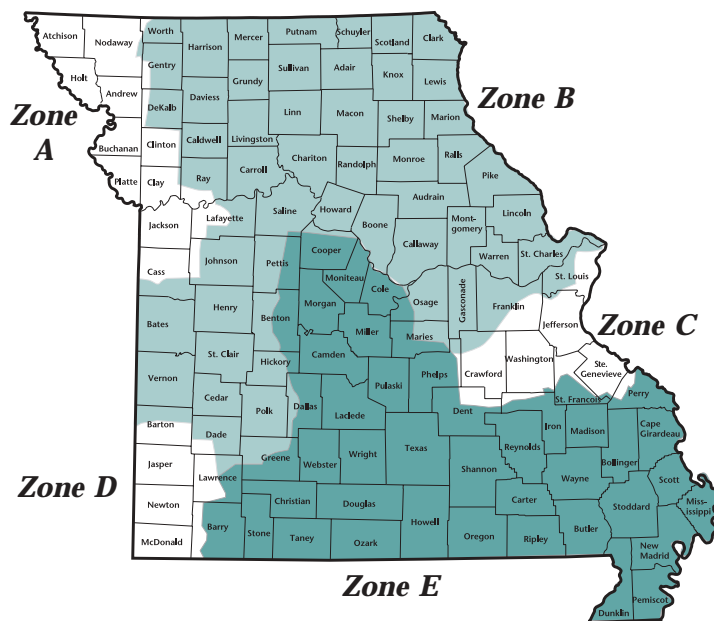
Otter Zones

Missouri is divided into five zones, which have their own seasons and bag limits. Properly licensed trappers may take the limit of otters in each zone.

Otter zones	Season dates	Bag limit
 A, C, D	Nov. 20–Jan. 20	5
 B	Nov. 20–Jan. 20	20
 E	Nov. 20–Feb. 20	any number

Zone A: That portion of northwest Missouri from the Iowa border and west of a line running south on Worth County Hwy. F to Mo. Hwy. 46; south on Mo. Hwy. 46 to U.S. Hwy. 136; south on U.S. Hwy. 136 to U.S. Hwy. 169; south on U.S. Hwy. 169 to Mo. Hwy. 31; south on Mo. Hwy. 31 to U.S. Hwy. 36; east on U.S. Hwy. 36 to U.S. Hwy. 69; south on U.S. Hwy. 69 to Mo. Hwy. 10; east on Mo. Hwy. 10 to Mo. Hwy. 13; south on Mo. Hwy. 13 to Interstate Hwy. 70; west on I-70 to Mo. Hwy. 131; south on Mo. Hwy. 131 to Mo. Hwy. 2; west on Mo. Hwy. 2 to the Kansas line.

Zone B: That portion of Missouri north of a line running west from the Illinois border on Interstate Hwy. 270 to Interstate Hwy. 44; west on I-44 to Mo. Hwy. 68; east of a line running north on Mo. Hwy. 68 to Mo. Hwy. 63; north on Mo. Hwy. 63 to the north bank of the Missouri River; north of a line running west on the Missouri River to Interstate Hwy.



70; west on I-70 to Mo. Hwy. 65; west of a line running south on Mo. Hwy. 65 to Interstate Hwy. 44; north of a line running west on I-44 to Mo. Hwy. 39; north on Mo. Hwy. 39 to U.S. Hwy. 160; north of line running west on U.S. Hwy. 160 to the Kansas line; and south of a line running east from the Kansas line on Mo. Hwy. 2 in Cass County to Mo. Hwy. 131; east of a line running north on Mo. Hwy. 131 to Interstate Hwy. 70; south of a line running east on I-70 to Mo. Hwy. 13; east of a line running north on Mo. Hwy. 13 to Mo. Hwy. 10; north of a line running west on Mo. Hwy. 10 to U.S. Hwy. 69; east of a line running north U.S. Hwy. 69 to U.S. Hwy. 36; north of a line running west on U.S. Hwy. 36 to Mo. Hwy. 31; east of a line running north on Mo. Hwy. 31 to U.S. Hwy. 169; north on U.S. Hwy. 169 to U.S. Hwy. 136; north on U.S. Hwy. 136 to Mo. Hwy. 46; north on Mo. Hwy. 46 to Worth County Hwy. F; north on Worth County Hwy. F to the Iowa border.

Zone C: That portion of eastern Missouri east and south of a line running west from the Illinois border on Interstate Hwy. 270 to Interstate Hwy. 44; west on I-44 to Mo. Hwy. 68; south on Mo. Hwy. 68 to Mo. Hwy. 32; and north of a line comprised of Mo. Hwy. 32 east to U.S. Hwy. 67; south on U.S. Hwy. 67 to St. Francis County Hwy. OO; south on St. Francis County Hwy. OO to St. Francis County Hwy. T; east on St. Francis County Hwy. T to Mo. Hwy. 51; and west of Mo. Hwy. 51 to the Illinois line.

Zone D: That portion of southwest Missouri west and south of a line running north from the Arkansas border on Mo. Hwy. 37 to U.S. Hwy. 60; east on U.S. Hwy. 60 to Mo. Hwy. 39; north on Mo. Hwy. 39 to U.S. Hwy. 160; west on U.S. Hwy. 160 to the Kansas line.

Zone E: That portion of south Missouri east and south of a line running north from the Arkansas border on Mo. Hwy. 37 to U.S. Hwy. 60; east on U.S. Hwy. 60 to Mo. Hwy. 39; north on Mo. Hwy. 39 to Interstate Hwy. 44; east on I-44 to U.S. Hwy. 65; east of a line running north on U.S. Hwy. 65 to Interstate Hwy. 70; south of a line running east on I-70 to the north bank of the Missouri River; east on the Missouri River to U.S. Hwy. 63; south on U.S. Hwy. 63 to Mo. Hwy. 68; south on Mo. Hwy. 68 to Mo. Hwy. 32; and south of a line comprised of Mo. Hwy. 32 to U.S. Hwy. 67; south on U.S. Hwy. 67 to Mo. Hwy. 32; east on Mo. Hwy. 32 to St. Francis County Hwy. OO; south on St. Francis County Hwy. OO to St. Francis County Hwy. T; east on St. Francis County Hwy. T to Mo. Hwy. 51; and south and east of Mo. Hwy. 51 to the Illinois line.